

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 23 through 32 and 41-42 were previously canceled. Claims 15, 16, 43 and 44 are canceled herein and claims 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14, 17, 18, 22, 34, 36 and 37 are amended. All amendments and cancellations are made without prejudice or disclaimer. All of the pending claims are presented below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please enter these claims as amended.

1. (Withdrawn) A packaging cell line capable of complementing recombinant adenovirus based on a serotype from subgroup B.

2. (Withdrawn) The packaging cell line of claim 1 wherein said serotype from subgroup B is adenovirus type 35.

3. (Withdrawn) The packaging cell line of claim 2, wherein said packaging cell line is derived from primary, diploid human cells, or derivatives thereof, said primary, diploid human cells or derivatives thereof having been transformed by adenovirus E1 coding sequences either operatively linked on one DNA molecule or located on two separate DNA molecules, said adenovirus E1 coding sequences being operatively linked to regulatory sequences enabling transcription and translation of encoded proteins.

4. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 34 wherein the transformed primary, diploid human cell, ~~or derivatives thereof~~ has been selected from the group consisting of a primary human retinoblast, a primary human embryonic kidney cell and a primary human amniocyte.

5. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 34, wherein the transformed primary, diploid human cell, ~~or the derivative thereof~~ has been transfected with an adenovirus E1A coding sequence to induce unlimited proliferation.

6. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 5 wherein said packaging cell line further comprises an E1B coding sequence.

7. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 34, wherein the transformed primary, diploid human cell, ~~or the derivative thereof~~ has been transformed by expression of adenovirus E1 proteins of a subgroup other than subgroup C.

8. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 7 wherein the subgroup other than subgroup C is subgroup B.

9. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 8, wherein said adenovirus E1 proteins are ~~derived from~~ of adenovirus type 35.

10. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 34, wherein the transformed primary, diploid human cell ~~or the derivatives thereof~~ has been transformed with a chimeric adenovirus E1 construct comprising part of a first adenovirus E1 coding sequence of a first adenovirus serotype that enables efficient transformation of primary human cells or derivatives thereof; and part of a second adenovirus E1 coding sequence of a second adenovirus serotype, wherein said second adenovirus E1 coding sequence provides the serotype-specific adenovirus E1B function(s) that enable(s) efficient propagation of recombinant adenovirus E1-deleted viruses of said second adenovirus serotype.

11. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 10 wherein said first adenovirus serotype is a subgroup C adenovirus and said second adenovirus serotype is ~~a subgroup B adenovirus, more particular~~ adenovirus type 35.

12. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 10 wherein an E1A coding sequence and at least part of the E1B-21K coding sequence are ~~derived from~~ of a subgroup C adenovirus, and the E1B-55K coding sequence as far as not overlapping with the 21K coding sequence is ~~derived from~~ of a subgroup B adenovirus.

13. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 12 wherein said subgroup B adenovirus is adenovirus type 35.

14. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 10 wherein all E1 coding sequences are ~~derived from~~ of a subgroup C adenovirus, except for at least a part of the E1B-55K coding sequence that is necessary for serotype-specific complementation of an alternative adenovirus serotype, said E1B coding sequence being ~~derived from~~ of said alternative adenovirus serotype.

15-16. (Canceled).

17. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 34, wherein the transformed primary, diploid human cell ~~or the derivative thereof~~ has been transformed by adenovirus E1 coding sequences located on two separate DNA molecules wherein the first DNA molecule carries at least part of the E1 coding sequences of the serotype enabling efficient transformation and the second DNA molecule carries at least part of the sequences necessary for serotype-specific complementation.

18. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 34 wherein said ~~derivative cell of a~~ transformed primary, diploid cell is a cell as represented by cells deposited under deposit number 96022940 at the European Collection of Cell Cultures (ECACC) which ~~derivative~~ transformed primary, diploid cell further comprises an Ad35-E1 region integrated into its genome, and wherein said Ad35-E1 region is present in a functional expression cassette.

19. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 18 wherein said Ad35-E1 region does not contain sequences overlapping with sequences present in an associated recombinant viral vector.

20. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 18, wherein said functional expression cassette comprises a heterologous promoter and a poly-adenylation signal functionally

linked to said Ad35-E1 region, wherein said heterologous promoter is a human phosphoglycerate gene promoter (hPGK) and wherein said poly-adenylation signal is a hepatitis B virus poly-adenylation signal (HBV-pA).

21. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 20 wherein said Ad35-E1 region comprises the coding regions of the E1A proteins and the E1B promoter sequence linked to E1B coding sequences up to and including the stop codon of the E1B 55K protein.

22. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 20 wherein said Ad35-E1 region comprises nucleotide 468 up to and including nucleotide 3400 of the Ad35 wild-type sequence (SEQ ID NO: 44).

23-32. (Canceled).

33. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 34, wherein the packaging cell further comprises a DNA encoding at least E4-orf6 of an adenovirus of subgroup B.

34. (Currently Amended) A process for complementing a recombinant adenovirus, ~~said method~~ the process comprising:

providing a packaging cell that complements recombinant adenovirus based on adenovirus type 35, wherein said packaging cell is ~~derived from~~ a transformed primary, diploid human cell, ~~or a derivative thereof~~, said transformed primary, diploid human cell ~~or derivative thereof~~ having been transformed by adenovirus E1 coding sequences either operatively linked on one DNA molecule or located on two separate DNA molecules, said adenovirus E1 coding sequences being operatively linked to regulatory sequences enabling transcription and translation of encoded proteins with said recombinant adenovirus; and

culturing said packaging cell to allow for complementation.

35. (Original) The process according to claim 34, further comprising harvesting complemented recombinant adenovirus.

36. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 34, wherein said recombinant adenovirus is ~~derived from~~ a subgroup B adenovirus.

37. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 36, wherein said recombinant adenovirus is ~~derived from~~ adenovirus type 35.

38. (Withdrawn) A recombinant adenovirus produced by the process according to claim 34.

39. (Withdrawn) The recombinant adenovirus of claim 38, further having a deletion of nucleic acid encoding at least one E1-region protein.

40. (Withdrawn) The recombinant adenovirus of claim 38, further comprising a deletion of nucleic acid encoding at least one E3-region protein and/or at least one E4-region protein.

41-44. (Canceled).